

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	
Robert Ulrich et al.)	Group Art Unit: 2174
Application No.: 09/853,650)	Examiner: SAJEDA
Filed: May 14, 2001)	MUHEBBULLAH
For: GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACE)	Confirmation No.: 9450
HAVING SOUND EFFECTS FOR)	
OPERATING CONTROL)	
ELEMENTS AND DRAGGING)	
OBJECTS)	

SECOND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action dated December 2, 2004 and the March 8, 2005 Advisory Action, a Request for Continued Examination and a Petition for Extension of Time having been timely filed herewith, reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested. Applicants have also filed herewith an Applicant Initiated Interview Request to schedule a personal interview.

In the March 8, 2005 Advisory Action, the Examiner asserts that "it is clearly stated in the Vanderheiden patent that a sound effect is associated with different display states as recited in col. 9, lines 34-52; fig. 7." Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's assertion. The Vanderheiden patent does not disclose display states.

As discussed in the February 1, 2005 Request for Reconsideration, the Vanderheiden patent discloses a touch screen system for people with disabilities (abstract). For example, a visually impaired person may drag a finger or a stylus pen

across a touch screen without a visual perception (col. 6, lines 27-34). The disclosed system provides audio clues as to the location of the touch point (col. 6, lines 52-54). The Examiner's citation refers to NO TOUCH, BLANK, and BUTTON transition states (Fig. 7). However, these states do not represent different display states. Rather, they relate to the touching of the screen by a stylus, e.g. the user's finger. See, for example, the trajectories represented by the lines 66 and 170 at the top of Figure 5. During these trajectories, the display remains constant as the user's finger transitions among the different touch states. Accordingly, the Vanderheiden patent discloses a touch screen system in which audio clues are touch point driven, not display-state driven. The Vanderheiden patent does not disclose changes in display states. As such, the Vanderheiden patent does not teach or suggest at least a sound effect being associated with a transition from a first display state to a second display state, as recited in claim 53.

Thus, independent claim 53 is allowable. Claim 54 depends from independent claim 53 and recites further advantageous features which further distinguish over the document relied upon by the Examiner.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants consider the application to be in condition for allowance and respectfully request notice thereof at an early date. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed number to schedule a personal interview.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: April 1, 2005

By:  _____

Richard J. Kim
Registration No. 48,360

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620



Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 001580-756

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For: GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACE)	
HAVING SOUND EFFECTS FOR)	
OPERATING CONTROL ELEMENTS)	
AND DRAGGING OBJECTS)	

APPLICANT INITIATED INTERVIEW REQUEST

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the December 2, 2004 final Office Action and the March 8, 2005 Advisory Action, a Request for Continued Examination and a Petition for Extension of Time having been timely filed herewith, Applicants respectfully request a personal interview.

In accordance with MPEP §713.01, the following Applicant initiated interview request information is provided: Tentative Participants are:

- (1) Richard J. Kim (Undersigned)
- (2) James A. LaBarre (Reg. No. 28,632)
- (3) Examiner Sajeda Muhebbullah
- (4) SPE Kristine Kincaid

Proposed Date of Interview: May 5, 2005

Proposed Time: 10:00 AM

Type of Interview Requested: Personal Interview

Exhibit To Be Shown or Demonstrated: N/A

Issues To Be Discussed: Rejection of claims 53 and 54.

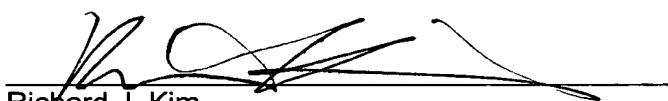
Brief Description of Arguments to be Presented: U.S. Patent 6,049,328 (Vanderheiden) does not teach or suggest at least a sound effect being associated with a transition from a first display state to a second display state.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request a personal interview to advance the prosecution of the application. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at one of (703) 836-6620 or (703) 838-6624 to schedule a personal interview.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: April 1, 2005

By: 
Richard J. Kim
Registration No. 48,360

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Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
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